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# United States Department of Agriculture,

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,

Seed and Plant Introduction and Distribution,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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## JAPANESE IRIS.

(*Iris kaempferi*.)

The Japanese Iris is among the most beautiful of the irises and is considered by many the most exquisite of all our summer-flowering plants. The plants are hardy perennials and once established will be a source of satisfaction for years. The flowers are of the most delicate shades, rivaling the orchids in colorings and markings, and often measure six to nine inches in diameter. The plants commence flowering from the first to the middle of June and continue flowering for four or five weeks.

*Culture.*—Irises will do best in deep, rich, well-manured, damp soil. They will usually succeed, however, in any good, rich, garden spot. A wet spot is not necessary, though the plants will thrive in such places; but they will not do their best in dry ground. The best results will be obtained by giving the plants an abundance of moisture throughout the growing season.

In the South the roots should be planted late in the autumn, and in the North as soon as the ground can be worked in the spring. In planting, take care not to cover the crowns more than one-fourth to one inch. As the roots multiply very rapidly, they should not be planted closer than fifteen inches apart each way.

